

REMARKS

The applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgement of the claim for priority under section 119 and the notice that all of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

The applicants acknowledge and appreciate receiving initialed copies of the forms PTO-1449 that were filed on 20 January 2004 and 11 March 2005.

Claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 6-8 and 15-21 have been withdrawn. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim 1 was objected to for a typographical error. In claim 1, line 11, the office action states that "surfaces ide" should be "surface side." This error has been corrected, and the applicants therefore request withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanimura *et al.* The applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn because the apparatus of Tanimura *et al.* fails to show all the features recited in at least claim 1, as explained in detail below.

Claim 1 covers embodiments such as the embodiment disclosed in Fig. 1 and described on pages 26-27. In the illustrated embodiment of Fig. 1, the pressure detecting device S1 includes a pressure transmitting member 20 that can receive electrical signals from a front surface of a semiconductor substrate 30 and can transmit pressure to the front surface side of the semiconductor substrate 30. Note that the embodiment of Fig. 1 includes a first electrode 35a

electrically connected to the housing 19 through a rod 21 of the pressure transmitting member 20. The second electrode 35b is electrically independent from the housing. As a result of this configuration, no wire bonding is required for lead-out of the electrodes 35a, 35b and the diameter of the housing 10 can be reduced to be nearer to the size of the semiconductor substrate 30.

Claim 1 requires, among other things, that the pressure transmitting member has electrically conductive properties and that the first electrode is electrically connected to the pressure transmitting member. The patent to Tanimura *et al.* discloses a pressure detecting device including an electrode 4 that is provided separately from the pressure transmitting member 10. There is no disclosure indicating that the rod 10 is electrically conductive. In fact, the pressure transmitting member 10 of the patent to Tanimura *et al.* is made of glass, which is non-conductive. See column 5, lines 44 and 45 of Tanimura *et al.* Therefore, a first electrode cannot be electrically connected to a pressure transmitting member in the device of Tanimura *et al.*, as required by claims 1-3.

Further, Claim 1 recites a lead member that is electrically independent of the housing. The patent to Tanimura *et al.* fails to disclose a second electrode that is electrically independent from the housing. For these reasons, there can be no anticipation of claims 1-3 by the patent to Tanimura *et al.*, and the rejection of claims 1-3 should be withdrawn.

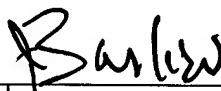
Claims 4, 5, and 9-14 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but were said to be allowable if written in independent form. Claims 4 and 12-14 have been written independent form including all the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, claims 4 and 12-14 are considered to be in condition for allowance. Claim 5 depends on claim 4 and is thus considered to be likewise in condition for allowance.

The applicants respectfully request rejoinder and examination of claims 6-8 and 15-21. Claims 6-8 and 15-17 should be rejoined due to their dependency on allowable claims. Claims 18-21 should be rejoined because claim 1, which is generic, is considered to be allowable over the prior art of record for the reasons given above. See 37 CFR 1.141 and the paragraph that begins with the words "Upon the allowance of a generic claim. . ." on page 2 of the election requirement of 14 February 2005.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Please charge any unforeseen fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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